

VETERINARIAN

DEFINITION

To provide routine and emergency medical and surgical care for a wide variety of animals in an animal shelter; maintain a veterinary medical facility; and to perform related duties.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives direction from the Animal Control Manager.

Exercises direct supervision over assigned staff.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS – Functions may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Direct and perform the screening diagnosis and basic and emergency medical treatment of all species of domestic animals impounded at the shelter.

Provide emergency and routine medical/surgical services for a variety of sick and injured animals; maintain a veterinary medical facility.

Perform spay/neutering surgery on animals prior to adoption.

Oversee the health of impounded animals; supervise the visual monitoring of impounded animals, including those that may be isolated or quarantined for signs of illness or unusual behavior.

Examine animals prior to adoption and before release from rabies quarantine.

Oversee the use of pharmaceuticals, including those used for euthanasia.

Maintain records to track the care and condition of animals.

Order and maintain medical supplies and equipment.

Explain medical aspects of animal care and regulations to the public; communicate the condition and status to staff, public, and animal groups.

Participate in investigations regarding the humane treatment of animals; testify in court, prepare written reports, and provide administrative support as needed.

Build and maintain positive working relationships with co-workers, other City employees and the public using principles of good customer service.

Perform other duties related to this position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Principles and practices of current veterinary medicine.

Animal diseases and their prevention, control, and eradication.

Current veterinary practices and techniques relating to the treatment of injured animals.

County, state, and federal animal health laws and regulations.

Animal regulation procedures and problems.

Customer service objectives and strategies.

Computer equipment and software related to assignment.

English usage, spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

Ability to:

Provide surgical and medical services and care for a variety of well, sick, and injured animals, including a high volume of spay and neutering operations.

Analyze critical medical and administrative situations and take effective action.

Provide state-of-the-art, high quality, animal medical services in the most efficient manner.

Prepare written reports, letters, and other documents using a personal computer.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Work with various cultural and ethnic groups in a tactful and effective manner.

Experience and Training

Any combination of education and/or experience and training that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Experience: Two years of responsible experience in veterinary medicine. Previous experience in shelter medicine is highly desirable.

Training:

Equivalent to a degree from an accredited college or university with major coursework in Veterinary Medicine.

License or Certificate

Possession of, or ability to obtain, a valid California Class C driver's license

Possession of a valid license to practice veterinary medicine in the State of California must be maintained during employment in the classification. Possession of or ability to obtain a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) controlled substance registration.

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PHYSICAL DEMANDS

On a continuous basis, sit and stand for varying periods of time while performing multiple surgical and medical procedures; intermittently twist to reach surrounding equipment; perform simple grasping and fine manipulation; use telephone; write or use a keyboard to communicate through written means; and lift or carry weight of 30 pounds or less.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Primary work is performed indoors in an air-conditioned office environment with fluorescent lighting and moderate noise level. Some exposure to the external environment is required when performing duties in the course of work. Frequent exposure to loud animal noises, odors, pet dander, diseased, and dangerous animals is necessary in the performance of duties.

